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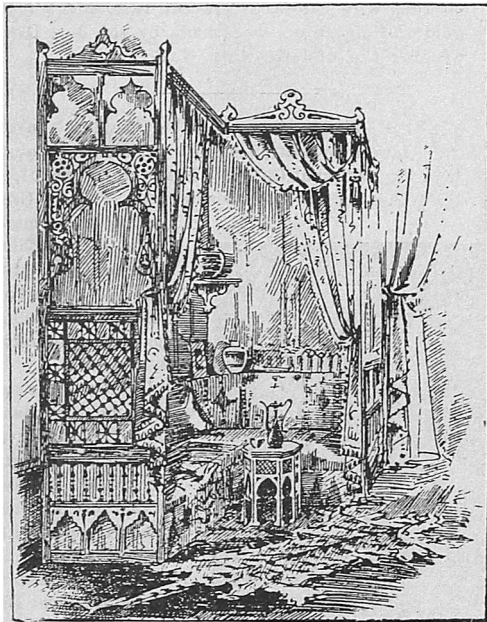
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# THE DECORATOR AND FURNISHER

It frequently happens that the middle room of three parlors *en suite*, which are to be found in almost all well regulated city households, and which are a standing advertisement of the imbecility of the architect, has no windows to light it, the only light that reaches the apartment being a few straggling rays that it receives from the front or back parlor. The family avoid so dark a den as this, and the question of the hour is how shall we decorate it so as to render it attractive and habitable?

Now, whether the master of the house and his friends are allowed to smoke in it or not, we would advise that one corner of the room at least should be fitted up with a smoking divan, in the Cairene, or Moorish style, such as we present our readers in the accompanying illustration. Such a construction will be voted an artistic success, and it is wonderful how cheaply so effective an arrangement can



A Moorish Divan.

be produced. The Moorish woodwork employed can be bought by the square yard, and we would advise all the woodwork to be painted blue. The seat or seats should be covered with old saddle bags, or moquet velvet. The walls may be of bright red satin, or brightly colored oriental silks can be used. A large quantity will not be required, as there should be a high dado of matting with a deep frieze of plain color, with wide arches similar in shape to those shown on the end of the illustration.

The curtains might be some gaily colored oriental stuffs, and if figured the portieres of the door should be of the plain material.

Messrs. W. & J. Sloane of this city undertake decorations of this kind, and their charges are moderate.

## ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

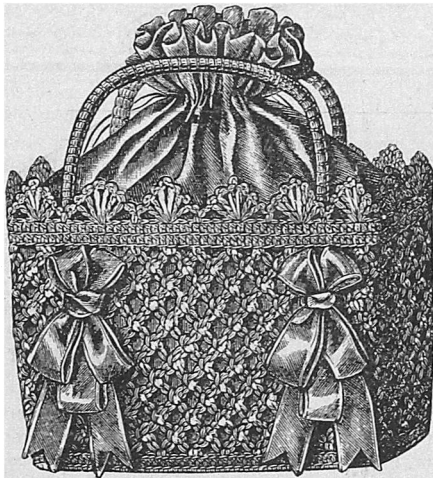
BROOKLYN, N. Y., June 3, 1891.

To the Editor DECORATOR AND FURNISHER.

Dear Sir—I am informed that there is quite a rage at present among ladies for manufacturing crochet-work neckties for gentlemen, umbrella cases, lamp-shades, etc., etc., in crochet silk. Can you give me any particulars as to the range of articles thus made, and where the silk can be procured for the purpose?

LAURA M. HARPER.

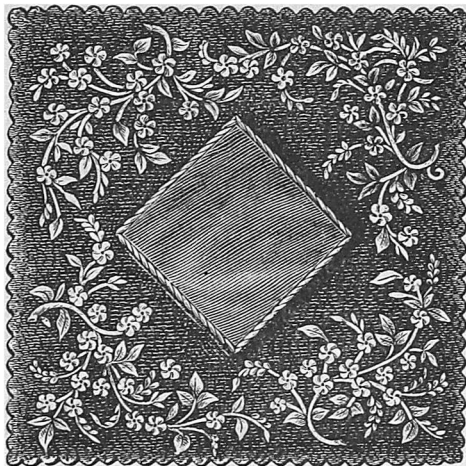
Crochet-work enters very largely, as you are aware, into both house furnishing and wardrobe fancies. There seems to be no limit to its possibilities in the production of things useful as well as beautiful; and it is hard to find a lady at the present day who is unacquainted with the manipulation of the crochet-needle. Exquisite lamp-shades are made of surah silk, satin, and silk muslin, bordered by medallions of wheel design, wrought in crochet, and



Hand-Basket of Covered Wicker Work.

finished with deep fringe tied in. Another design in a crochet lamp-shade consists of a chain of rings to which is attached a chain, or row of medallions in the wheel design, with a deep tassel headed by a ring, dropping from each medallion, over a valance of lace about six inches wide. A new tidy is of fan-shape done in crochet shells, with a finish of deep fringe, and trimming of strips of narrow ribbon run between alternate shells, and a bow of ribbon at the top. A tidy in a medium tone of terra cotta color, trimmed with satio ribbon in turquoise blue, would be exceedingly handsome. Beautiful *mouchoir* cases or handkerchief bags are done in crochet, in the shell stitch, and mounted on a square of Bristol board covered with surah silk or satin. Olive, sea-green, marzarin blue and cardinal red are nice colors for these handy little bags. Besides, we find umbrella-cases, slippers, gentlemen's four-in-hand neckties and suspenders, ladies' beaded reticules and shopping-bags, centers for dinner and tea-tables, trimming for table and sideboard scarfs, and almost numberless and nameless pretty things, the outcome of the simple little crochet-needle or hook, which seems in itself the merest trifle. For crochet work we cannot too highly recommend the crochet silk of Brainerd & Armstrong. For smoothness and evenness of fibre, for beauty and fadelessness of colors, and for all qualities necessary for crochet-work it is unsurpassed. It may be well to add that it may be known by its being put up only on red spools.

We present herewith a hand-basket, the wicker work of which is covered, lined and trimmed with brown satin, while the outside cover is worked with strong crochet silk, which forms a pleasing decorative object.



Lamp Mat.

The correspondent, wishing to make a lamp mat, is presented with a design, the foundation of which is deep Bordeaux red cloth, with a satin square of the same color in the center. The leaves and stems of the forget-me-nots in the four corners are worked in green silks in inch shades on the cloth, but the flowers are made separately of tiny pieces of blue silk, with a tiny French knot of yellow silk in the center, so as to appear in relief.

TIFFIN, OHIO, June 3d.

DEAR SIR: If the editor of your correspondence department will only give me a neat design for a wall pocket and an opera glass bag I will be ever so much obliged. I am going to contribute such articles to a Sunday School Bazar, and would like to have a nice designs for same. Yours truly,

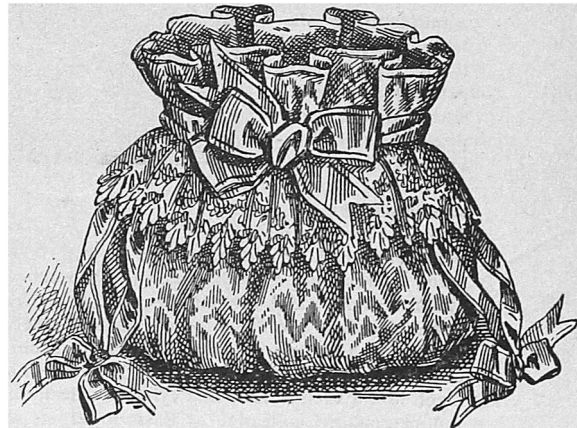
A. B. C.

We give a design for a wall pocket, which is made



Wall Pocket.

as follows: For the back cut a 12 inch piece of upholsterer's canvas eight inches wide; arrange 16 inches of shrimp plush in three straight box-pleats, keeping the center one wider, and tack it on the stiff canvas, allowing 2 inches for the turning of the heading, and some for the rounded edge. For the pocket, choose 12 inches of Louis XVI brocade, rounded off at the lower part; form a center box pleat and a few flat ones for the sides. Apply it on a piece of upholsterer's canvas, cut to the shape of the pocket; line it with silk, and tack the pouch thus prepared to the back foundation, allowing about three quarters of an inch of the plush to appear all round. Over it is laid 40 inches gold lace, headed with



Opera Glass Bag.

31 1-2 inches of gold galon. A yard and a half of pink ribbon is required for the torsade and the bows. Secure two rings, overcast with crochet work, at the top, between the canvas and the silk reseda lining of the back.

The opera glass bag is made of moire silk adorned with a frilling of Spanish lace, together with bows and drawn strings in corded ribbon, bordered with a satin stripe. The box-pleated heading displays a silk lining of contrasting shade.